

CITY OF LYNDEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



<u>Meeting Date:</u>	February 27, 2025
<u>Name of Agenda Item:</u>	Amend LMC 19 re Design Review
<u>Section of Agenda:</u>	Public Hearing
<u>Department:</u>	Community Development Department
<u>Attachments:</u>	
Review Guide to Amendment, LMC 19 revisions shown as tracked changes .	
<u>Summary Statement:</u>	
<p>State Legislation has required that cities revise design review processes to eliminate standards which could be subjectively applied. The primary goal in this requirement is to reduce the review and approval time for proposed projects. It also serves to implement a more consistent standard. The City of Lynden must comply with the State's directives by the close of 2025.</p> <p>Historically the City of Lynden has maintained a Design Review Board (DRB). City code has required that the volunteer members of the DRB include some individuals who have design, construction, or building experience. This group has reviewed sign applications, commercial and multi-family projects as it relates to city design standards and adopted guidelines.</p> <p>The proposed amendment to the city code includes changes which impact a significant number of sections as the adopted design guidelines, previously a separate document, have been converted into code requirements now incorporated into the municipal code as standards. The amendment also proposed to dissolve the Design Review Board and places the burden of review on an administrative process conducted by the staff of the Technical Review Committee. This dissolution relieves the burden of maintaining a Design Review Board and is expected to expedite the design review process.</p> <p>An outline of proposed changes has been attached as a review guide.</p>	
<u>Recommended Action:</u>	
Motion to approve the proposed amendment to LMC 19 regarding the design review process, the dissolution of the Design Review Board, and the adoption of design standards for commercial and multi-family projects.	